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Oct. 21, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FORMER EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY GRADUATE/FACULTY MEMBER DIES

CHARLESTON -- Word has been received of the Oct. 9, 1997, death of Charles B. Arzeni, Ph.D., 71, of McAllen, Texas, in Ajijic, Mexico.

Dr. Arzeni was born Dec. 15, 1925, in Witt, Illinois, to immigrant Italian parents. He married Joan S. Cage of New Castle, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 2, 1950. He is survived by his wife; two children, Maria Mosior of Ballwin, Missouri, and Paul Arzeni of Green Bay, Wisconsin; and four grandchildren.

Dr. Arzeni graduated as a Livingston Lord Scholar (1947) with a B.S. in botany from Eastern Illinois University in 1948, and completed his M.S. (1949) and Ph.D. (1952) at the University of Michigan. He worked as a research botanist for the Firestone Rubber Company in Liberia from 1952-1954; served as chairman and professor of botany at Tougaloo College from 1954-1960; and taught at the American University in Beirut, Lebanon, from 1962-1964 before returning to Eastern Illinois University to teach in the botany department in 1965. After 28 years of dedicated service to his alma mater, Dr. Arzeni retired as a professor of botany from EIU in 1993.

He was a renowned bryologist and economic botanist and supervised more than 40 master's-degree students during his tenure at Eastern. Dr. Arzeni had extensive international experience as

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FORMER GRADUATE/FACULTY MEMBER

a researcher and lecturer, was awarded two Fulbright Scholarships (Colombia and Peru), and served as Resident Director of Tropical Botany for more than 10 summers at the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores in Monterrey Mexico.

Memorials may be made to the Charles B. Arzeni Memorial Fund, care of the Eastern Illinois University Foundation. No local memorial service has been planned.